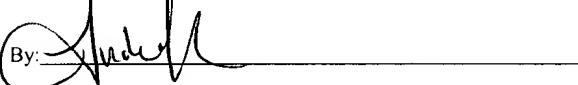


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On September 29, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: 

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 16869S-028400US  
Client Ref. No.: E6033-01 MR

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Tsutomu Kono, et al.

Application No.: 09/884,784

Filed: June 19, 2001

For: HYBRID HOUSING OF METAL  
BOARD AND SYNTHETIC RESIN

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No.: 2346

Examiner: Hung V. Ngo

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2831

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.